

NEARLY 150 ARE KILLED IN EXPLOSION

Disaster is the Worst in the History of Western Coal Mining

Bodies of Miners are Literally Blown to Pieces and Those That Have Been Recovered Cannot be Recognized.

SPIRITS OF THE PARISIANS RISING AS WATERS FALL

Government Issues Stringent Orders to Prevent Epidemic—Will be Lenient on Tax Collections.

By Associated Press
PARIS, Jan. 31.—An improvement in the general situation continues and the spirits of the Parisians are rising as the waters fall. Street hawkers are selling postcard pictures of the flood and the boulevards are once more gay with rejoicing thousands.

With the crisis past, the mercurial French temperament faces a subsidiary trouble of light and heat, but the papers are already warning the people that measures must be taken to prevent a repetition of the disaster. The prefect department of the Seine has issued instructions to owners of flooded houses to clean, and disinfect the premises to the satisfaction of the municipal architects within twenty-four hours after the subsidence of the waters. The government has ordered tax collectors to show the greatest leniency to delinquents and

Mont De Piato is extending pawn tickets for three months. Several steam trams resumed work pumping out the subway.

Although the papers are printing columns of pitiful stories, a hundredth part of the horrors will never be known. Many corpses have been swept down the river, and occasionally a coffin is found in a boat that has broken away from some funeral procession. Scores of half famished families have been rescued from their homes and hundreds are still occupying their half-submerged houses waiting for the water to recede. Many starving dogs roaming around Alfortville and Ivry were shot. In several instances they attacked human beings. The government has arranged to loan money on the ruined houses of shop owners to enable them to rebuild, and the loans may be refunded by installments.

Rescue Parties Work Frantically to Clear Debris—Seventy-One Bodies Are Found Piled in a Mass.

By Associated Press
PRIMERO, Colo., Feb. 1.—(Tuesday)—Seventy-nine bodies, the victims of yesterday afternoon's explosion in the Primero mine, were found piled in a mass at the foot of the air shaft, shortly after midnight. It had been shown by the time keeper's records that there were 149 men in the mine at the time of the explosion. None are thought to be alive. The main shaft is completely wrecked.

PRIMERO, Colo., Jan. 31.—Over one hundred men are believed to have been killed by a terrific explosion in the Primero mine of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company, at 4:30 this afternoon. Eight bodies were recovered, and the rescue parties are making desperate efforts to reach the interior workings that were cut off from the outside by the caving in of the main portal. Three men were killed at the mouth of the main stope by the force of the explosion.

Both fans, with which the mine is equipped, were shattered and were not repaired until 7:30 tonight. When the fans were repaired, General Superintendent Thompson and a rescue party entered the main air shaft, but were unable to reach the main shaft which was completely blocked. The

party returned to the surface after securing five bodies which were badly burned. A party equipped with oxygen helmets replaced them in the working and are now searching for more bodies. Miners from the neighboring towns are laboring frantically to clear the main shaft and are relieving each other every few minutes. It is impossible to determine how far the main shaft is caved, and it may be days before the shaft is cleared and the total death list known. There is little hope of any of the men in the mine being alive. The company clerk reports seventy-nine safety lamps missing and it is sure that a number of men are entombed. Many miners, however, state that there are one hundred and fifty men missing. Most of the victims are Slavs and Hungarians.

At 10 o'clock tonight fifteen bodies were recovered from one of the main stopes. The bodies were literally blown to pieces and were unrecognizable. A special train, carrying physicians and coroner Gilfoyle arrived shortly before 10 o'clock. The officials of the company state the disaster is the worst in the history of western coal mining. A similar explosion in which twenty-four were killed, occurred in the same property on Jan. 23, 1907. The bodies then were not recovered for weeks.

DAMAGE SUITS ALLEGING SLANDER ARE FILED

Doctor Wants \$700,000 as Balm to Injured Feelings—Resents Accusations That He Poisoned Relative.

By Associated Press
KANSAS CITY, Jan. 31.—The filing of damage suits by Dr. B. C. Hyde, the Swope family physician, against the attorney and two physicians connected with the investigation of the deaths of Colonel Thomas H. and Chrisman Swope, marked his active entrance into the case here today. The suits are for sums aggregating seven hundred thousand dollars. Following the filing of the suits, statements were issued by Hyde and his wife, who was a niece of Colonel Swope and a sister of Chrisman Swope, regarding the deaths of the two men, in which Mrs. Hyde expresses absolute confidence in her husband. The first suit filed was against Attorney General John G. Paxton, the executor of the Swope estate, who was prominent at the inquiry. Slander is alleged. Hyde charges Paxton with having openly declared the physician poisoned Thomas H. and

Chrisman Swope, causing their deaths. An actual damage of fifty thousand dollars and untitled damages of fifty thousand is asked for in the suit.

Paxton, Dr. Frank J. Hall, the bacteriologist, and Dr. Edward L. Stewart are named as defendants in the second suit which is for six hundred thousand dollars. Hyde alleges these men made a defamatory statement regarding him in connection with the Swope deaths. Mrs. Hyde's statement gives a detailed account of the illness of her brother. She also expresses a desire that the investigation be as vigorous and as complete as possible so that there may be no doubt about the cause of the deaths. Hyde explained his one reason for bringing the suits was to have an opportunity of demonstrating beyond a doubt that all rumors concerning him in connection with the mysterious deaths were false.

GILLETT MAKES EXPLANATION OF HIS COAL LANDS

SACRAMENTO, Jan. 31.—In explanation of the statement made at Washington today by Representative McLachlan of California, Governor Gillett told today of his purchase of Alaska coal lands near the Cunningham group. "Three or four years ago," he said, "I purchased through a man named Greene, 160 acres for myself and 160 acres for my wife, the claims being ten miles from the Cunningham group. Those claims cost me four thousand dollars each. They are in anthracite coal, while the Cunningham group is bituminous coal. Some time ago we, with several others, grouped our lands and formed a company, naming it the Alaska Smokeless Anthracite company. I still own my claims."

SNAKE VENOM BEING USED AS MEDICINE

STOCKTON, Jan. 31.—After three weeks use of the venom from rattlesnakes in the treatment for tuberculosis of the lungs in a Lodi case that was in its last stages, Dr. Hull of Stockton reports some improvement of the patient, who is a son of Supervisor Newton. The poison treatment is given after a formula recommended by eastern physicians who have tested it. In the Lodi case the young man is reported as freed from night sweats and stimulated by the venom, which is encouraging, though a permanent cure is hardly looked for. The venom is used in a prepared form after treatment in a laboratory.

SIGN MEAT PLEDGE.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Jan. 31.—Two thousand workmen of Grand Rapids tonight took their first active step in the meat boycott by forming the workmen's board of trade. They signed the anti-meat pledge.

CHURCH DESTROYED.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 31.—Fire destroyed the First Church of Christ Scientist, tonight. The loss is estimated at \$75,000.

BROTHER OF PRESIDENT ILL AT LOS ANGELES

By Associated Press
LOS ANGELES, Jan. 31.—The condition of Henry W. Taft, a brother of the president, who is in a local hospital suffering from an attack of erysipelas, became suddenly worse tonight. The president has been notified. No alarm is felt regarding the ultimate outcome of the case, according to Dr. William E. Edwards, a brother-in-law of Taft.

CLAIMS INTOXICATION WAS DUE TO ONIONS

PITTSBURG, Jan. 31.—Unsuspected forces in the lowly onion were revealed today when George Prunner appeared before Magistrate Fred Gottman, and the onion jag was added to the catalogue of pitfalls for the unwary.

"I was going to call upon a friend who had consumption," explained the prisoner, "and my doctor advised me to eat some onions first to avoid contagion; I did so. They went to my head and things began to whirl. I don't remember what happened after that. I didn't know onions ever affected folks that way."

The magistrate did not confess to similar ignorance, but promptly discharged the victim of the newest joy creator. Prunner left, followed by a crowd anxious to learn where he got the onions.

"AUNTY" BURNS PASSES AWAY AGED 77

Friday evening shortly after 7 o'clock, "Aunt" Burns, who had been ill for several days with pneumonia, succumbed.

Mrs. Della Burns, better known as "Aunt," has been the housekeeper of Lemmon Bassett and passed away at his home. The deceased was well known throughout the west as she lived in a number of the principal towns of California and Nevada since coming to the coast from her New York home in 1875. For a number of years she was the proprietor of a rooming and boarding house in Bodie and endeared her-

Gifford Pinchot Expected to Follow Glavis on the Stand

By Associated Press
WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—The Ballinger-Pinchot investigation committee adjourned today until Friday morning, with Glavis still on the stand. He will be further questioned at that time. Glavis was cross-examined by several members of the committee today, the democrats taking a more prominent part in the questioning, and framing their interrogations in such a way that it elicited answers tending to accentuate certain parts of the testimony already given by the witness. At the close of the hearing Senator Nelson called attention to the fact that the committee was proceeding "feebly" and blindly, as there was no one present to cross-examine as representatives of the other side. He personally said he had no desire to question the witness further, although he thought it best that Glavis should remain in the city until certain documents called for from the interior department arrived and had been examined.

When cross-examined by Senator Fletcher of Florida, Glavis said that Ballinger, while commissioner of the land office had appeared before committees from congress and his testimony had favored a bill that would validate all the Alaska coal claims. He also said an affidavit filed on September 3, 1908, by Clarence Cunningham, had on the back of it the name of the firm with which Judge Ballinger was connected.

Glavis testified that Donald A. McKenzie had told him the reason Garfield was not retained in Taft's cabinet as secretary of the interior was because of his antagonism to the Alaskan coal claimants.

Glavis said he had made an affidavit containing this interview but denied when questioned by Root if he had regarded it as a reflection upon Taft or that he intended to use it as an attack upon the president. Glavis said he thought the president might be interested in it and thought also the affidavit would interest Garfield. It is expected that Pinchot will follow Glavis either Friday or Saturday. Senator Paynter of Kentucky resigned from the committee on account of illness today and did not attend the session.

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with destruction but the volunteer firemen confined the blaze to the one building with a loss of about \$12,000.

THE BEGINNING OF LENT.

Lent will begin on February 9, fifteen days earlier than it did last year, so that Easter Sunday will fall on March 27, instead of April 11, as it did last year. Inasmuch as Easter is fixed as the Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox, which falls on March 21 of each year, it is evident this year will be near the record for early dating. It will be the second earliest Easter in a quarter of a century, that of March 25, 1894, being the nearest to the vernal equinox in that period.

FAST TRAIN STRIKES SLED FULL OF CHILDREN

ANDOVER, O., Jan. 31.—A bob-sled, carrying 20 school children, was struck by a fast Lake Shore and Michigan Southern passenger train on North Main street today and carried 200 feet on the pilot of the locomotive until brushed off by an engine standing on a side track. Not one child was killed and it is thought that none were seriously injured.

GONE TO HAPPY HUNTING GROUND

The relic of an old timer passed away on Thursday at Beatty. She was the Indian wife of M. M. Beatty, who died about a year ago. During the last twenty years of their lives four children were born to them, of which three survive. The elder two, Maude and Frank, are at an Indian school. Monte, the youngest, was with his mother.

The Beatty ranch, from which the town of Beatty derives its name, was originally located 35 years ago by some squaw man. Beatty relocated it twenty years ago as the third locator. He brought there a bunch of horses and expected to make a horse farm there.

When the town of Rhyolite was organized, the Bullfrog Water, Light and Power company purchased the ranch principally for the water rights it covered. Two years ago Beatty built a good residence in the town where the family have since resided. The body of Mrs. Beatty was interred yesterday alongside that of her old-time companion.—Rhyolite Herald.

MACHINERY ARRIVES FOR BEATTY MILL

All of the machinery for the mill of the Nevada Ore Treating company arrived at Beatty early this week. The building is ready for its reception and will be put in at once. From present appearances the plant will be ready for operation about the middle of next month, and will then begin work on ores from Pioneer.—Rhyolite Herald.

STRYCHNINE IS FOUND IN STOMACH OF MILLIONAIRE

By Associated Press
CHICAGO, Jan. 31.—Strychnine was found throughout the viscera of the late Colonel Thomas H. Swope, the Kansas City millionaire, according to a report made by Drs. Walter S. Haynes, Ludwig Hektoen, Victor C. Vaughn to John G. Paxton, the executor of the Swope estate here today. The same poison, it is also believed, was found in the liver of Chrisman Swope, the Colonel's nephew, but it was announced the examination of his organs had not been completed to the satisfaction of the toxicologists and would be continued.

Although the prosecuting attorney of Kansas City, refused to make any statement, Paxton said a criminal prosecution would follow their return home, for which place he left tonight in order to be present at the inquest tomorrow. While no one will make a statement that strychnine itself was administered Paxton said all the physicians were satisfied a drug which contained strychnine in large quantities was given the dead man.

TO QUESTION TITLE OF COMSTOCK TUNNEL COMPANY

Affairs on the Brunswick in which the Comstock Mohawk company is interested, came to a standstill yesterday when President Leonard of the Comstock Tunnel company entered a protest to the payment for claims bonded by the Comstock Mohawk company. The tunnel company claims that some of the claims are within the grant given by the government when the tunnel was put through. The Comstock-Mohawk company has engaged Attorney Lindley, a well known authority on mining law, and O'Brien & O'Brien of Goldfield to fight the case and will attack the tunnel company on the grounds that it has not fulfilled the requirements of the grant and will petition congress to have this grant revoked. When the final decision is given it will clear up much speculation as to just what rights the government gave with the grant for the tunnel.